

# MOTORCYCLE SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM

*2004 report*



**New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety**



## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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## I. Executive Summary

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The New Jersey Motorcycle Safety Education Program (MSEP) continues to provide instruction and training designed to improve the safe operation and riding of a motorcycle. The Motorcycle Safety Foundation's (MSF) curriculum was adopted as the official New Jersey State curriculum. The curriculum includes different levels of training from basic beginner riding to experienced and defensive riding. The training is available at both public (State) and private locations.

On March 13 and March 14, the DHTS held the annual motorcycle safety program update for all the Rider Coach/Examiners that were certified as Examiners for the 2004 training season. The update was conducted at the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs facility located in Sea Girt, New Jersey. The main purpose of this update was to review the 7th edition of the Examiner's Guide, and to distribute the Examiner's Stamp and the ID badges. The Examiner's Guide explains how to conduct the skills exam portion of the New Jersey MSEP's Basic Rider Course. Successfully passing this portion (indicated by "stamping" the student's motorcycle driving permit) establishes the student's eligibility for the issuance of a New Jersey motorcycle license or endorsement by the MVC and a "waiver" of the MVC's licensing road test.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) sponsored the first motorcycle safety forum for representatives from the New England and Eastern Regions on December 1 and 2, 2004 in Lake George, New York. The purpose of the forum was to share information regarding motorcycle programs and discuss strategies for improving motorcycle safety efforts. New Jersey identified the need for more rider coach trainers, more training sites, and the need to increase motorcycle safety in public awareness programs. The State was represented in this forum by two members of the New Jersey Motorcycle Safety Education Advisory Committee, William Turkus and Jeffrey Goldstein, the DHTS Director Roberto Rodriguez, Rider Coach Anthony Velez, and Tom Wright from the NJ Motor Vehicle Commission.

In 2004, 6,317 participants successfully completed the Program. The State provided classes at two training sites. Three “private” providers - public and private educational institutions approved by the Director to provide the Program - offered classes at six other training sites. The map on page 4 shows the location of each training site in the State.

In 2004, the Director certified 146 Rider Coaches. Of these, 121 were qualified to serve as an Examiner and received an Examiner’s Stamp. Table 1 shows the distribution of Rider Coaches and Rider Coach/Examiners. All RiderCoach/Examiners receive State certification; however, Rider Coach/Examiners not currently employed by the Division or by a provider do not receive an Examiner’s Stamp.

**Table 1 - 2004 Rider Coaches and Rider Coach/Examiners**

PROVIDER	RIDER COACHES	EXAMINERS
Fairleigh Dickinson University	25	18
Gloucester College	12	9
Rider Education	85	78
State	16	16
No Assigned Provider	8	
<b>Total</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>121</b>

## II. Background

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Pursuant to the MSE Act, N.J.S.A. 27:5F-36 et seq. (P.L. 1991, c.452), effective July 1, 1992, the Director has established the Motorcycle Safety Education Program (MSEP). The purpose of the New Jersey Motorcycle Safety Education program is to provide new and experienced riders a course of instruction and training designed to improve the operation and riding of a motorcycle. The Program operates under the direction of the Director of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety.



### III Classes

The Motorcycle Safety Education Program in New Jersey offers four courses: the Basic Rider Course (BRC), two Experienced Rider Courses (ERC) (ERC+) and an Instructor Preparation Course (IPC).

Table 2 shows the distribution of classes taught in 2004 by the providers and the State. Providers offered 354 Basic Rider Course classes, 6 Experience Rider Course classes, 62 Experience Rider Course Plus classes, and 2 Instructors Preparation Course class. The Instructor Preparation Course is offered to all new Rider Coach candidates. The State offered 64 Basic Rider Course classes, and 9 Experienced Rider Course Plus classes.

**Table 2 - Number of Classes Offered By Providers And The State in 2004**

PROVIDERS/CLASS	BASIC RIDER COURSE (BRC)	EXPERIENCE RIDER COURSE (ERC)	EXPERIENCE RIDER COURSE + ERC +)	INSTRUCTOR PREPARATION COURSE (IPC)
Fairleigh Dickinson University	126	6	13	1
Gloucester County College	59		10	1
Rider Education of New Jersey	169		39	
State	64		9	
(Sea Girt)	39		9	
(Egg Harbor)	25			

**The data reported in this table is provided by DHTS.**

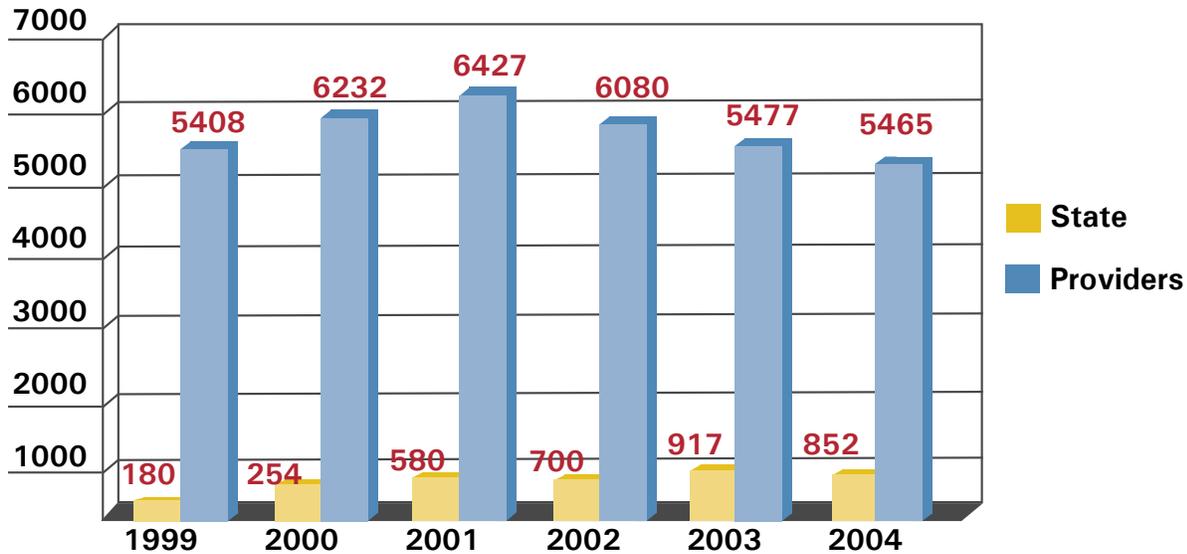
Table 3 shows the distribution of riders that successfully completed the motorcycle training state-wide in 2004. The State successfully trained a total of 852 riders, 784 and 68 in the basic and experienced rider courses respectively. The providers successfully trained 5,436 riders, 4,858 in the basic course, and 607 in the experienced rider course.

**Table 3 - Number of Riders Successfully Trained by the State and Providers in 2004**

PROVIDER	COURSE	PASS	FAIL
DHTS	Basic	784	68
	Experience+	68	1
FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON	Basic	1,129	125
	Experienced	29	0
	Experienced +	110	0
GLOUCESTER COUNTY	Basic	518	44
	Experienced	0	0
	Experienced +	92	1
RIDER ED. NEW JERSEY	Basic	3,211	163
	Experienced	0	0
	Experience +	376	2
TOTALS	Basic	5,642	400
	Experienced	29	0
	Experienced +	646	4
Grand Total		6,317	404

**The data reported in this Table is provided by the DHTS.**

Graph 1 shows the number of riders trained by the State and private providers for 1999 to 2004. The number of riders successfully trained by the state increased significantly by 473% from 180 in 1999 to 852 in 2004. However, during the same time, the number of riders successfully trained by private providers has remained relatively stable with some increases in 2000, 2001 and 2002. In 2001 more riders successfully were trained than in any other year. A total of 7,007 riders were successfully trained, 580 by the State and 6,427 by private providers.

**Graph 1 - Motorcycle Riders Successfully Trained by the State and Providers**

#### IV. FATALITIES AND INJURIES DATA

The information regarding injuries and fatalities is presented in table 4. The total number of motorcycle crashes from 2000 to 2003 increased by seven percentage points from 2,365 to 2,525. In contrast, during the same period injuries decreased by 33.8 percentage points. Fatal crashes and fatal injuries have been relatively stable with the exception of 2001.

**Table 4 - New Jersey Motorcycle Injuries and Fatalities**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004*
<b>Total Number of Crashes</b>	2365	2705	2550	2525	N/A
<b>Total Number of Injuries</b>	3202	2236	2191	2118	N/A
<b>Fatal Crashes</b>	51	75	49	45	44
<b>Fatal Injuries</b>	54	77	50	46	46

The data reported in this Table is provided from NJDOT and the DHTS.

\*= Preliminary data up to November 2004.

Graph 2 presents the distribution of motorcycle fatalities by age group from 2000 to 2004. The age group of 26 to 30 years of age experienced more fatalities in comparison to other age groups. The group has a total of 50 fatalities that account for 18% of total motorcycle fatalities. This group is followed closely by the 21 to 25 age group with 45 fatalities that account for 16 % of total fatalities.

**Graph 2 - New Jersey Motorcycle Fatalities from 2000 to 2004.**

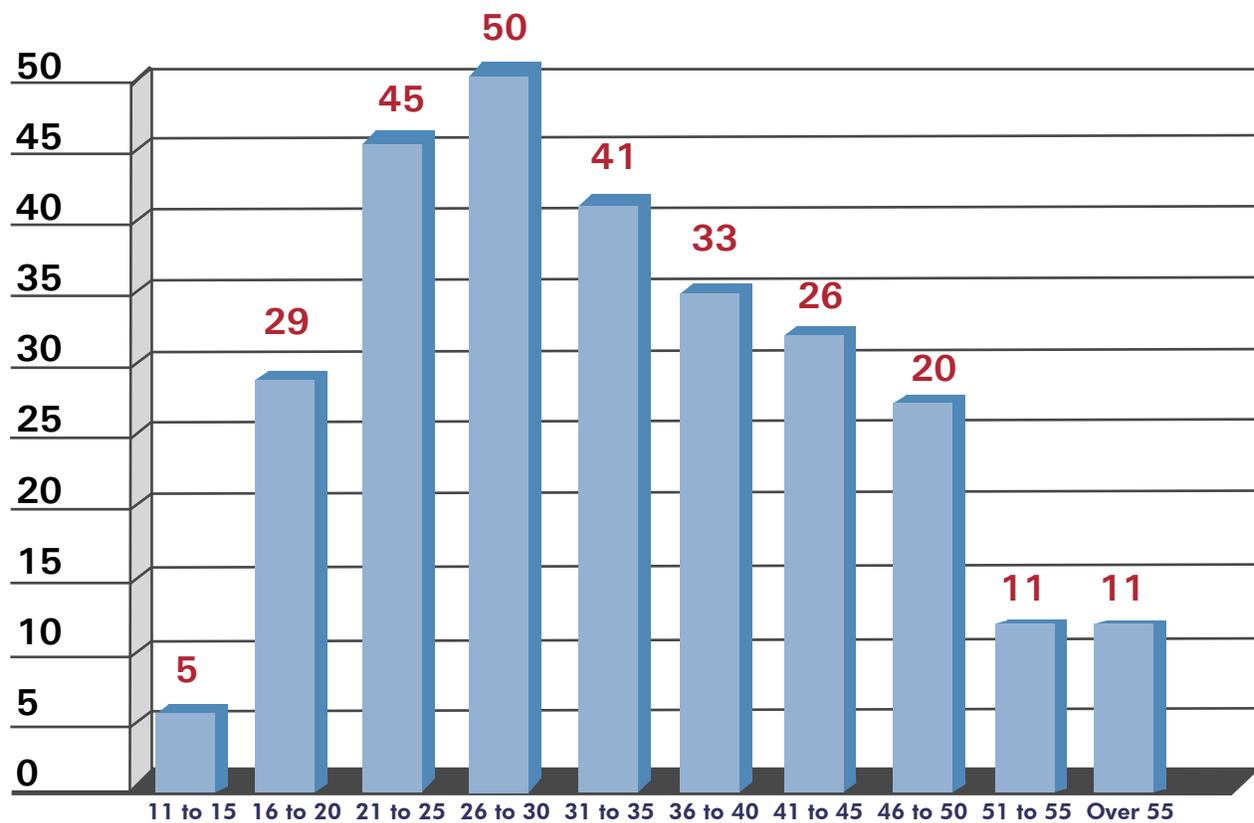


Table 5 represents the number of fatalities involving motorcycle crashes by counties during a five year period. From 2000 through 2004, motorcycle crashes resulted in 273 fatalities. The county with the most fatalities during the period of 2000 to 2004 is Essex County with 32 motorcycle fatalities. The county with the least number of motorcycle fatalities during the five year period is Warren County with two fatalities.

**Table 5 - New Jersey Motorcycle Fatalities by County**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Total
Atlantic	1	6	2	2	1	12
Bergen	1	4	5	1	5	16
Burlington	2	3	8	1	5	19
Camden	5	7	3	1	4	20
Cape May	1	4		2		7
Cumberland	2	2	1	4	1	10
Essex	8	9	3	5	7	32
Gloucester	1	5		1	1	8
Hudson	2	3	1		1	7
Hunterdon	1	2	1	1	1	6
Mercer	3	3	3	6	1	16
Middlesex	8	4	2	2	5	21
Monmouth	2	2	6	4	3	17
Morris	1	2	1	3		7
Ocean	4	5	3	4	4	20
Passaic	1	2	6	2	2	13
Salem		1	1	3	1	6
Somerset	3	5	1		1	10
Sussex	4	4		2	2	12
Union	3	3	3	2	1	12
Warren	1	1				2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>273</b>

## V. Registrations.

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Table 6 presents data on annual motorcycle registrations for the State and the Nation. The number of motorcycles registered in New Jersey has increased 24 percent from 111,430 in 2000 to 139,086 in 2003. The final count for 2004 will likely equal or exceed 2003's 139,086 registrations. Up to November 2004, there were 136,225 registrations. Nationwide, the number of motorcycles registered increased by 22 percent from 4,303,762 in 2000 to 5,251,130 in 2002. The availability of motorcycle safety education course has been an important contributing factor to the decline in fatalities and crash-related injuries despite the increase in motorcycle registrations.

**Table 6 - Motorcycle Registrations in the State and Nationwide**

REGISTRATIONS	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
NEW JERSEY	111,430	125,303	130,000	139,086	136,225
NATIONWIDE	4,303,762	4,862,158	5,251,130	N.A.	N.A.

The data reported in this table is provided from the Federal Highway Administration and MVC.  
N.A. = data is not available.

## VI. FISCAL DATA

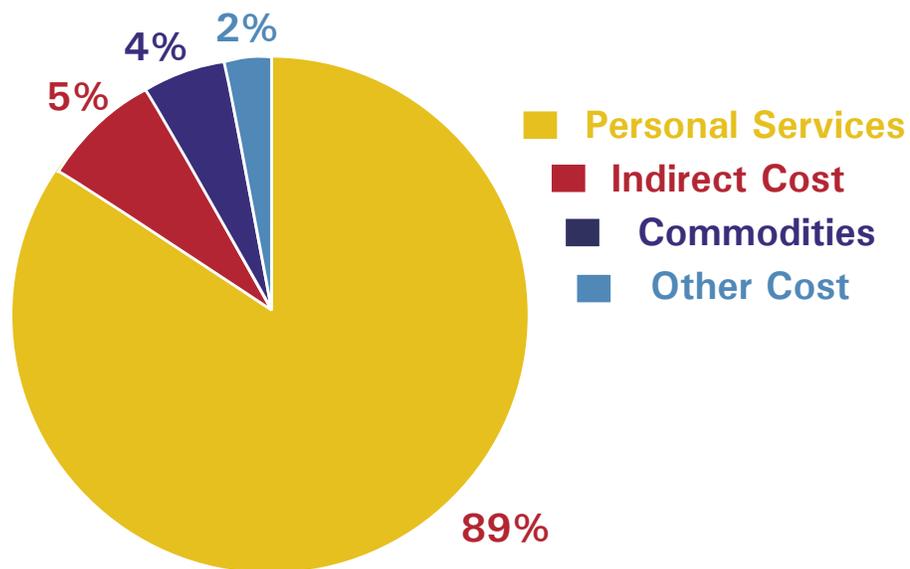
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The State - conducted MSEP operates on the State fiscal calendar year, July 1 to June 30. The classes offered by the Division and its other Program responsibilities are funded by the Motorcycle Safety Education Fund. Five dollars of the fee collected by the Motor Vehicle Commission for the issuance of each motorcycle license or endorsement is deposited in the Fund. Monies in the fund have been sufficient for the Division to offer tuition free classes. During State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2004, the amount of dollars in the fund available to implement the motorcycle safety education program totaled \$1,021,303. Of that total, \$593,224 was carried over from SFY 2003 and \$428,079 was provided as new revenue generated from motorcycle registration fees during 2004.

Total expenditure for the 2004 season was \$423,409. Pursuant to regulations, private providers of the program may charge tuition.

Graph 3 shows the Motorcycle Safety Education Fund Expenditure distribution as follows: Personal Services 89%, Indirect Cost 5%, Other Direct Cost 2%, Commodities 4%. The outline for the Expenditure Categories is presented in Table 7.

**Graph 3**



**Table 7 - 2004 Motorcycle Fund – Amount Allocated and Expenditure**  
*Account Titles to the Expenditure Categories*

<b>PERSONAL SERVICES</b>		<b>COMMODITIES</b>	
Instructors' Clothing	3,629	Office Supplies	1,358
Fringes	54,278	Educ. Materials	19,373
Gasoline/Fuel	548		
Insurance	9,214	<b>Total</b>	<b>20,731</b>
Maintenance	7,079	<b>Contractual Services</b>	
Memberships	0		
Mileage Reimbursement	97	Tech. Prof.	0
Postage	1,917		
Printing	7,839	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>
Rent Central	2,256		
Rent Other	1,984	<b>Other Direct Costs</b>	
Salaries & Wages	271,129	Vehicular Equipment	4,938
Staff Training	240	Other Equipment	2,985
Telephone	7,185		
Tolls & Parking	0	<b>Total</b>	<b>7,923</b>
Photocopy	656		
Travel	2,837	<b>Indirect Cost</b>	
Official Reception	949		
Household Security	553	Indirect Cost	22,365
<b>Total</b>	<b>372,390</b>		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>22,365</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>423,409</b>		

**New Jersey Motorcycle Safety Education Program**





**New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety**

